

Applicant: Hans-Peter BRAUN et al
Docket No. R.307601
Preliminary Amdt.

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 1, please add the following new paragraphs before paragraph [0001]:

- [0000.2] CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION
- [0000.4] This application is a 35 USC 371 application of PCT/EP 2004/052991 filed on November 17, 2004.
- [0000.6] BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Please replace paragraph [0001] with the following amended paragraph:

- [0001] ~~Prior Art~~ **Field of the Invention**

Please replace paragraph [0002] with the following amended paragraph:

- [0002] The invention ~~is based on a~~ directed to an improved device for pumping fuel ~~as~~ generically defined by the preamble to the main claim.

Please add the following new paragraph after paragraph [0002]:

- [0002.5] Description of the Prior Art

Please replace paragraph [0003] with the following amended paragraph:

- [0003] A device for pumping fuel ~~is already known from German Patent DE 198 56 298 C1[[,] [[with]]~~ has a suction jet pump that has a fuel line and a mixing conduit; in a first partial section of the fuel line, oriented toward the mixing conduit, a nozzle-like constriction with a nozzle opening is provided, and the fuel line communicates fluidically with the mixing conduit via the nozzle opening. The mixing conduit is embodied at a storage container, and the nozzle-like constriction is disposed as a separate part on the end of the fuel line toward the mixing conduit. The suction jet pump aspirates fuel from a supply tank via an intake opening into an intake chamber. The aspirated fuel, because of the dynamics of the fuel that

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does not enter the intake chamber parallel to the fuel stream direction, has a tendency to deflect the fuel stream toward a wall of the mixing conduit, so that in an unfavorable case this stream applies itself to the wall and flows along it. As a result, the full surface area of the fuel stream is no longer available for entraining fuel, and the suction power is thus reduced markedly.

Page 2, please replace paragraph [0005] with the following amended paragraph:

[0005] Advantages of the Invention

SUMMARY AND ADVANTAGES OF THE INVENTION

Please replace paragraph [0006] with the following amended paragraph:

[0006] The device according to the invention ~~having the definitive characteristics of the main claim~~ has the advantage over the prior art that the device of the invention is improved in a simple way, because with the same quantity of fuel stream a higher pumping capacity is achieved because the fuel stream is prevented from being applied to the housing wall. Because at least one rib is provided between the first partial section of the fuel line and the mixing conduit, the fuel flowing into the suction jet pump is deflected, guiding the flow, in such a way that the fuel stream undergoes no deflection, or only slight deflection, in the direction of the wall of the mixing conduit.

Please delete paragraph [0007].

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Page 3, please replace paragraph [0014] with the following amended paragraph:

[0014] It is furthermore advantageous if the wall thickness of the at least one [[web]] **rib**, viewed in the axial direction with respect to an axis of the mixing conduit, is small compared to the cross section of the inlet opening of the mixing conduit, since in this way the fuel aspirated by the fuel stream is made the least turbulent.

Page 4, please replace paragraph [0016] with the following amended paragraph:

[0016] Drawings **BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS**

Please replace paragraph [0017] with the following amended paragraph:

[0017] One exemplary embodiment of the invention is ~~shown in simplified form in the drawings and described in further detail in the ensuing description[.] , taken in conjunction with the drawings, in which:~~

Please replace paragraph [0018] with the following amended paragraph:

[0018] Fig. 1 shows a view of the device of the invention in section; and ~~Fig. 2 is a side view of the device of the invention of Fig. 1, taken along the line II-II.~~

Please add the following new paragraph after paragraph [0018]:

[0018.5] Fig. 2 is a side view of the device of the invention of Fig. 1, taken along the line II-II.

Please replace paragraph [0019] with the following amended paragraph:

[0019] Description of the Exemplary Embodiments

DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

Please delete paragraph [0020].

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Page 5, please replace paragraph [0024] with the following amended paragraph:

[0024] A second partial section 2.2 of the fuel line 2 communicates fluidically, for instance via a pressure regulating valve 11, with a pressure line 12, which extends from a pumping unit 15 to an internal combustion engine 16 and supplies the latter with fuel. The pumping unit 15 is disposed for instance in the storage container 8 and aspirates fuel via an intake line 17, in which a prefilter 18 is for instance provided, and pumps the fuel at elevated pressure to the engine 16 via the pressure line 12. In the pressure line 12, a main filter 19 is for instance provided, which filters out fine dirt particles contained in the fuel. From the pressure line 12, for instance downstream of the main filter 19, the fuel line 2 branches off and, when the pressure regulating valve 11 is open, supplies the suction jet pump 1 with fuel. The pressure regulating valve 11 opens when the pressure in the pressure line 12 exceeds a predetermined value and causes excess fuel to flow out of the pressure line 12 back into the storage container 10, via the fuel line 2 having the first and second partial sections 2.1, 2.2, the nozzle [[5]] 4, and the mixing conduit 3 of the suction jet pump 1. The suction jet pump 1 aspirates fuel from the supply tank 9 in a known manner; via an intake opening 22, the fuel reaches an intake chamber 23 of the suction jet pump 1.

Please replace paragraph [0025] with the following amended paragraph:

[0025] The suction jet pump 1 may, however, also expressly be supplied via a return line that pumps excess fuel from the engine 16 back into the supply tank [[8]] 9. The suction jet pump 1 may also communicate fluidically with the pressure line 12 both upstream and downstream of the main filter 19, the pressure of the pressure line 12 being lowered, for instance by means of a throttle.

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Page 8, please replace paragraph [0035] with the following amended paragraph:

[0035] For example, a plurality of ribs 27 are provided, for instance three ribs 27, and the ribs 27 are disposed around the first partial section 2.1 of the fuel line 2 and distributed uniformly over the circumference, so that the ribs 27 divide the annular inlet opening 26 of the mixing conduit 3 into a plurality of individual partially annular openings [[17]]. Because of the embodiment of the device with a plurality of ribs 27, a mechanically more-stable connection is attained between the first partial section 2.1 and the nozzle 4 and the mixing conduit 3. Moreover, in this way, the flow is guided even better in the direction of the mixing conduit 3 than if there were only one rib 27.

Page 9, please replace paragraph [0039] with the following amended paragraph:

[0039] Fig. 2 shows a [[side]] sectional view of the device of the invention of Fig. 1, taken along the line II-II. In the device of Fig. 2, those elements that remain the same or function the same as in the device of Fig. 1 are identified by the same reference numerals.

Page 11, please add the following new paragraph after paragraph [0040]:

[0041] The foregoing relates to a preferred exemplary embodiment of the invention, it being understood that other variants and embodiments thereof are possible within the spirit and scope of the invention, the latter being defined by the appended claims.